

House Resolution No. 2337

Whereas, the City of Slater, Missouri, has attained distinction since its founding one hundred twenty-five years ago in Saline County along the Chicago and Alton Railroad line which ran between Kansas City and Chicago; and

Whereas, incorporated in 1878, Slater was named in honor of railroad tycoon John Fox Slater, a well-known Colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War who had set up a million-dollar trust fund to be used for the education of freed slaves; and

Whereas, developed on land donated by Joshia Baker, Slater demonstrated the visionary, progressive nature of its creation in such acts as the establishment of the Slater Mill and Elevator in 1878, The Slater Sentinel newspaper in 1879, an elementary school in 1881, and an electric plant in 1888 which came into city ownership one year later; and

Whereas, with a population in excess of 3,700 by the 1920s, Slater was home to three banks, a finance company, a public-stock shoe factory, a garment factory, an ice plant, and the Slater Development Corporation which is still extant and working to expand further the industrial and employment base of the city; and

Whereas, Slater citizens raised money to consolidate their banks during the Great Depression, embarked on a public works program a year before the national effort to relieve unemployment, and expanded the electrical grid in efforts which provided a solid foundation for growth and stability in the post war years and on up to today; and

Whereas, Slater residents have recently banded together in a drive for downtown restoration and renovation, to eliminate budget deficits, and to promote investment and cooperation between a wide variety of public, private, religious, and charitable groups as an exemplary model for what a small rural community can accomplish:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar history and fine citizenry associated with the town of Slater and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes as they celebrate the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the founding of their community; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the City of Slater, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Jim Seigfreid
District No. 26

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2337, adopted April 29, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker